



Eclectic charm

Distinctive touches, such as antique light fittings and crafted cabinetry handles, lend an established quality to this kitchen

Individual pieces chosen with care can transform a utilitarian space, such as a kitchen, into an aesthetically inviting interior. And often it can be objects already in the homeowners' possession which inspire an architect's vision.

That was certainly the case with this kitchen designed by architects Rehn Hassell and Marc Asmus, Yunker Associates Architecture. They took their cue from the owners' love of antiques.

"Eclectic pieces collected over time were incorporated into the design to



provide the kitchen with its distinguishing characteristics," says Hassell.

In addition to found objects, such as the antique light fittings, some items were especially created in an older style. For example, the door handles on the white cabinetry are made from blackened steel. These handles feature a gun metal finish, and were crafted by a blacksmith into their distinctive shape.

Traditional touches in a mainly contemporary scheme, provide an established quality, which is particularly relevant in



Facing page: The galley design of this kitchen makes use of every space. At one end, a desk provides a barrier between the kitchen and the adjacent family living room.

Above: Metal lockers are positioned vertically and horizontally above the main countertop and used as small display cabinets. These unusual pieces provide visual interest and help to create a distinctive interior.

Left: This kitchen has been remodeled and expanded as part of an addition to a traditional home in the Tudor style.



Top: The countertops are made from Kasota stone, which is quarried in Minnesota. Adjacent to the sink countertop, narrow glass cabinets display crockery and glassware.

Above: A custom designed panel above the hood shields the meal preparation area so that it can't be seen from the dining room. This fabricated metal panel also serves as a backsplash.

Above, right and right: The jewel-like quality of the antique chandelier scatters light over the breakfast banquette.



this kitchen. It is located in a remodeled section of an older house, originally built in the Tudor revival style.

Casement windows above the main sink echo this architectural era. Their piecemeal design is complemented by two metal lockers. One is placed horizontally, the other vertically, and together they form matching display cabinets.

An ornate faucet is a point of interest on the island countertop – an area used primarily for meal preparation. A raised panel shields kitchen work from the view



of guests in the dining room opposite.

This fabricated metal panel is crowned by a wood shelf that is wide enough to accommodate plates for meal service.

Interesting materials contribute additional color and texture to the interior. The countertops are made from indigenous Minnesota stone, and the wood grain on the table at the breakfast banquette matches the oak floors.

With limited floor area, banquette seating enables the table to be placed close to the wall, allowing for smooth traffic flow.

Architect: Rehn Hassell, AIA, Marc Arvola, AIA, Yunker Associates Architecture (Minneapolis, MN)

Main contractor: Upsilon

Cabinet maker: Isaro Design

Countertops: Minnesota Kasota stone from Venter Stone

Flooring: White oak

Windows: Marvin Windows

Lighting: Decorative antique lighting and recessed halogens

Backsplash: Sink backsplash, Kasota stone; steel backsplash by tileco

Sink: Stainless steel, custom made

Faucets: Hamilton Brass

Oven: Viking

Ventilation: Aluminum turbo from Soho

Refrigerator: Sub-Zero

Dishwasher: Asko

Photography by Kellan MacLeod